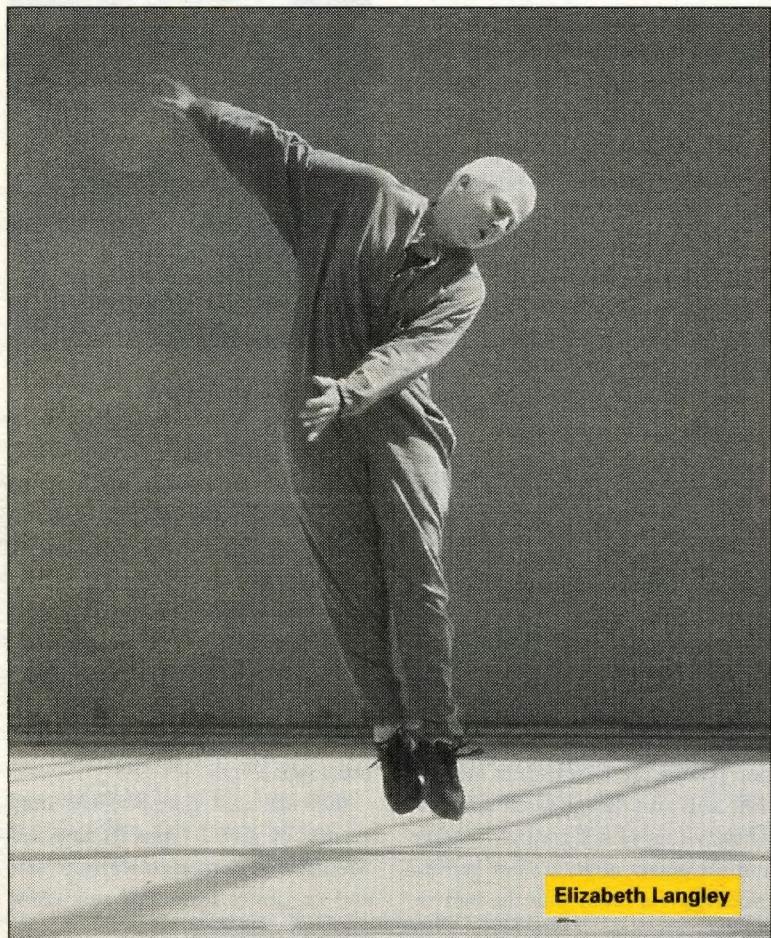


CONCORDIA'S THURSDAY REPORT

VOL. 22

MAY 7, 1998

N° 15



Elizabeth Langley

PHOTO: STEVE LELOUX

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New "multimedia authoring" course links art and computer science

An explosion of digital creativity

BY DEBBIE HUM

Students in a new program, Digital Image/Sound and the Fine Arts, presented their year's work to Rector Frederick Lowy, Fine Arts Dean Christopher Jackson and Associate Dean Lynn Hughes on April 21.

"These projects are remarkable, and absolutely impressive for someone like myself who is not a computer whiz," Rector Lowy said of the projects created in the Fine Arts Silicon Graphics and Macintosh labs. "I hope there is a way of presenting your skills and techniques to the larger public," he told the students.

In fact, student works, using Hypertext Markup Language (HTML), Macromedia Director with Lingo scripting, Shockwave and javascript, and Virtual Reality Modeling Language (VRML), will soon be displayed on the course Web site, <http://www-fofa.concordia.ca/digital/index.html>

The projects were completed for the course DFAR 350 Multimedia Authoring, which is core to a new double major program that combines 45 credits of Computer Science with 45 credits of Fine Arts.

The course focuses on Web-page

design, multimedia design and building virtual worlds. The program, an educational "blend of computer knowledge and artistic studies," is coordinated by Professor Greg Garvey, Chair of the Design Art Department.

Over the year, students have had access to resources and original source materials from the Montreal Museum of Fine Arts, such as digital scans from the collection and authoritative text in French and English. Successful student projects may be linked to the museum's Web site.

Garvey said that having permission to use the museum's resources is invaluable. "The real-world aspect of the course is quite compelling," he said. "It really depends on the individual student's initiative and perseverance to research and request materials."

Student Lori Allen created two interactive tours based on works from the museum's permanent collection. "Mythical, Magical Creatures" is an educational game that features artwork from the ancient cultures gallery. Allen also developed a tour of the life and work of Quebec artist Paul-Émile Borduas.

Louis P. Huard invited the Rector

sion. I have free time, free choice. There has never been a time in my life like this."

Langley came to Concordia from Australia via New York and Ottawa. "I've been here for 20 years, and I've taught many of the dancers in the city," she said.

When students came into the department and Langley felt they were not sure they should be there, she would ask them a question like, "Can you live without this?" If they said, "I cannot live without being a dancer," she said, "Go for broke."

She would suddenly ask them, "What is your dance dream?" "You want the answer off the top of their heads," she said. "If they have a Hollywood-y, make-a-lot-of-money, be-a-star attitude, this is not the profession for them. Our department doesn't create stars, it creates artists, and artists don't make a lot of

money."

When Alfred Pinsky, then the Dean of Fine Arts, gave Langley the task of designing the program in 1980, it was on the premise that Canada had strong dancers but was weak in choreographers. He wanted to develop a small department that never admitted more than 20 people a year, where students could develop choreographic skills and be protected for their first three or four years of creativity.

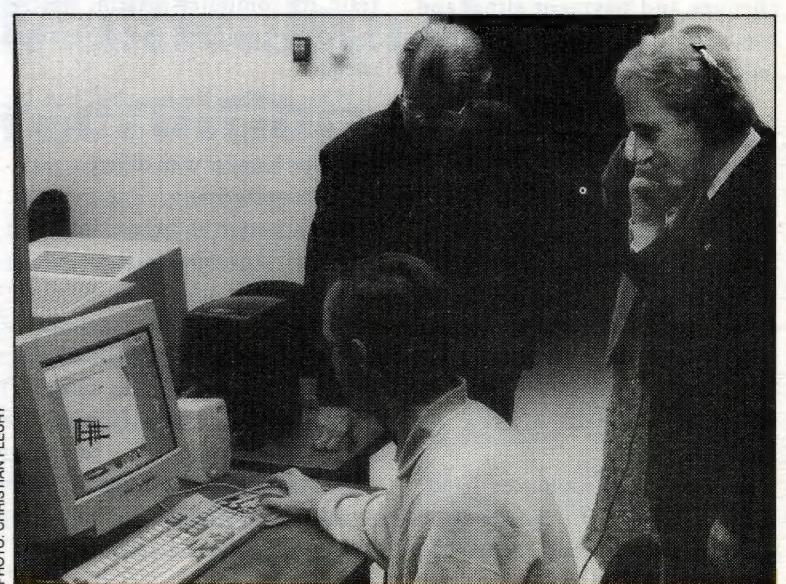
The idea was that by the time they moved into the community to present their own work and apply for grants, they would have a fair amount of experience as interpreters and choreographers. The strong choreographic element draws applicants to Concordia's Dance program from all over Canada.

"Some people do not believe that
See Dance, p. 4

active three-dimensional world."

Students have also worked on multimedia projects outside of the course. Eight students supervised by Design Art's Don Corman are participating in "À la poursuite d'un rêve," a multimedia collaboration between Concordia, Montreal's FACE School and the Harry Miller Middle School in New Brunswick.

The project is sponsored by the
See Digital, p. 4



A student presents his work from the Multimedia Authoring course, as Rector Lowy (far right) and Professor Garvey look on.

Christopher Jackson was musical director of French production of *L'Orfeo*

Back from a musician's paradise

BY BARBARA BLACK

In the myth of Orpheus, the demigod descends to hell to look for his beloved Eurydice, but Dean of Fine Arts Christopher Jackson has just spent four months on tour with



From the cover of the program, French singer Hervé Lamy, who played the title role in *L'Orfeo*.

Orpheus in a musician's paradise.

Jackson, who has an active career in early music, was musical director of a major production in France of *L'Orfeo*, by Claudio Monteverdi. The experience left him, not for the first time, deeply envious of the

encouragement given to classical music in that country.

As founder of a well-known early-music chamber group, the Studio de Musique Ancienne de Montréal (SMAM), Jackson knows the French musical world well, but this four-month stint was an especially enriching experience. He went with his wife, Dominique, also a musician, and their three children, aged 6, 8 and 13, who adapted well to a period of home study.

The production of *L'Orfeo* was directed by Christian Gangneron, with whom SMAM had worked on a production of three 17th-century oratorios titled *Histoires sacrées*. The production toured in 1994, and subsequently, a CD was released under the same title.

Not only did Gangneron design a richly painted, versatile set in the form of a large triptych, but the French director, whom Jackson describes as a charismatic man with elements of the philosopher and the social worker, did extensive research and went to great lengths to educate his audience.

There was a touring 20-minute *avant-gout* of the opera to prepare high schools and other venues, and there was even a full conference last summer, complete with academic

papers. No expense was spared. "France is a very socialist country," Jackson said. "They don't have to hustle [for cultural funding]."

Production was by ARCAL, the *Atelier de recherche et de création pour l'art lyrique*, which is well subsidized by the government. The tour included a dozen performances in various venues on the Île de France, near Paris, and visits to 10 other cities, from Amiens to Vichy.

"We had full houses everywhere we went — 1,000 to 1,400 people every night," Jackson recalled, shaking his head in wonder. "It was mind-boggling, just incredible." The opera was well noted in the press, and Jackson was interviewed.

L'Orfeo was first produced in 1607, and while it is often called "the first opera," it is quite different from the art form that bloomed in the 18th and 19th centuries and is familiar to us now.

In the Greek myth, the musician Orpheus (or Orfeo) was distraught when Eurydice died. He could only get her out of Hades on the condition that he not look back at her. He did, and she disappeared forever. These values of self-control, courage and the power of art are not hard to make relevant today. But the theatrical conventions of the early 17th



Christopher Jackson

century are less accessible.

"*L'Orfeo* is very bound up with neo-Platonist thought," Jackson explained. "It's quite difficult to stage, because you get little bursts of action, and then a character comes forward to tell the audience the moral of what is going on." The preparation for the production included a seminar with the principal artists on musical ornamentation, pronunciation of early Italian, and other fine points.

Jackson said that SMAM may eventually give *L'Orfeo* its first full Montreal performance with the sets and costumes from this successful French production.

CENPARMI's reading skills rise to a new level

Bogus cheques perform a genuine service

BY JORDAN ZIVITZ

Concordia's Centre for Pattern Recognition and Machine Intelligence (CENPARMI) needs your name in writing.

A CENPARMI research team directed by Professor Ching Suen and assistants Nicholas Strathy, Christine Nadal and Ke Liu has developed a computer program with the potential to automatically process cheques and payment slips, and handwriting samples are needed in order to train the system.

Suen and his research associates were turned down by a number of banks in their requests for handwriting samples and financial backing.

So the research team recently distributed 27,000 blank cheques to the Concordia community in an effort to collect samples. As an incentive for people to fill out and return their blank (and uncashable) cheques, CENPARMI held a draw on Friday, April 24.

Everyone who submitted handwriting samples to the research centre was automatically entered into the contest. At the time of the draw, 6,000 cheques had been returned to CENPARMI.

The winners of the draw were Dawn Johnson (Human Resources), who received a dinner for two at Le Petit Szechuan restaurant, Gabrielle Korn (Alumni Affairs), who got a multi-purpose watch; and Computer Science student Rachel Bissonnette, recipient of a laser pointer with multiple heads.

CENPARMI's unorthodox method of collecting handwriting samples was necessary to adequately train its computer system, which works by scanning and digitizing cheques.

"The number [of samples] had to be large enough so that the computer would be familiar with different people's handwriting, and would perform better in recognizing the handwritten material," Suen explained.

The automatic cheque reader developed by CENPARMI has been in the works for more than 15 years. The system had been fed small amounts of handwriting samples before, but it was only in the last year or so that Suen's research team felt it was ready to be trained on a larger scale.

A \$500,000, three-year contract from Bell Canada provided the sup-

port needed to get the main component of the cheque-reading computer system up and running.

After CENPARMI's computer program digitizes a cheque, it uses several pattern recognition methods to read the cheque's date and numerical and legal monetary amounts.

"[The computer program] learns how the shapes of different numerals are written," Suen said. "[It recognizes] structural and geometrical features like straight lines, loops, curvatures, and densities, and [is learning] new networks and classifiers to decipher handwritten numbers and words."

"The main component of the system is recognizing digits. That's what the [financial] industry uses now to process their cheques," added Strathy, who is the principal designer of the system. He admitted that the program's word recognition is still in the research stage.

The computer system currently recognizes 50 per cent of cheques correctly, with a 1-per-cent margin of error. If a cheque cannot be confidently read, it must be rejected; hence the need for CENPARMI to collect more handwriting samples in order to raise the system's confidence



Ching Suen presents Dawn Johnson with proof of her prize. Professor Suen is a 1998 Concordia Research Fellow.

ratings in recognizing patterns.

When they sent the cheques, Strathy said, research assistant Christine Nadal got calls asking, "Is this safe?" and "What are you guys doing with the data?"

"This is serious research, and Concordia stands to be able to produce something that is really useful. Reading handwriting is a problem that's been around for years without really getting cracked. We human

beings tend to think that it's obvious how to interpret this kind of information, but a machine has to be told every detail of what to do."

Even though the draw has already taken place, Strathy said there isn't any deadline for people to return their cheques to CENPARMI. "We'll take them any time." To submit handwriting samples to CENPARMI, please contact Christine Nadal, at 848-7952.

'Technology is like a knife — you can carve, or do somebody in'

Gary Boyd keeps his faith in humanist values

BY PHIL MOSCOVITCH

Educational Technology Professor Gary Boyd has spent more than 30 years immersed in the world of computers and high-tech tools. But he hasn't bought all the hype.

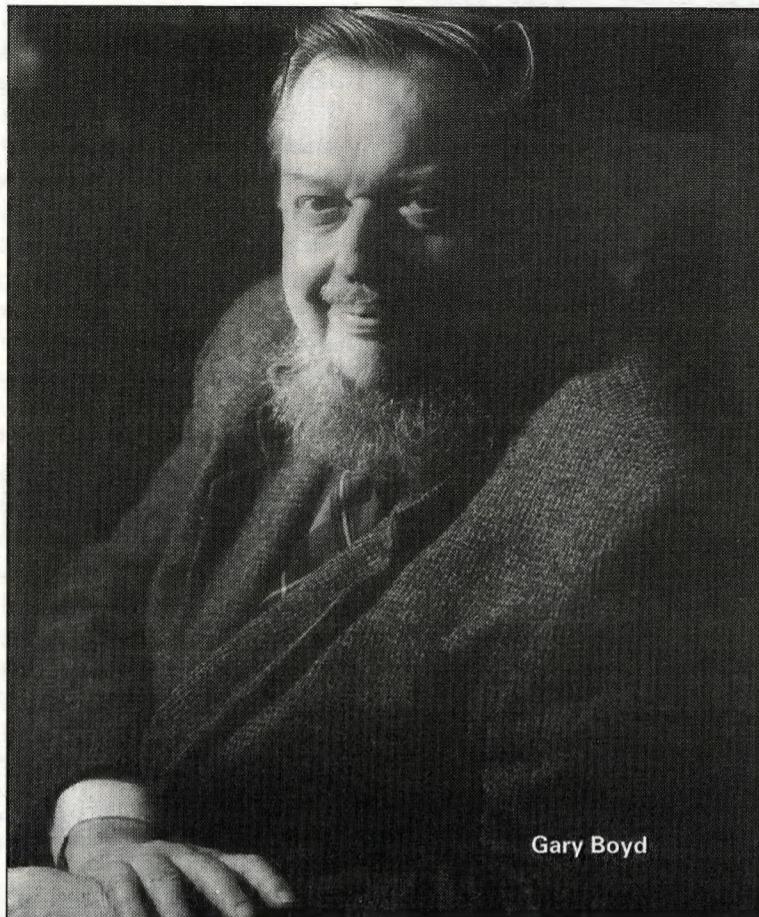
Asked if he believes that technology will reach its full potential, he answers, "I'm more optimistic about people realizing their potential. The technology is like a knife — you can use it to carve something beautiful, or you can use it to do someone in." He adds, "I've got an awful lot of faith in the human spirit."

Boyd, who studied physics in university, began teaching at Sir George Williams in 1968. At the time, there was no Educational Technology Program, and studying the uses of television in education was all the rage. Boyd's main interests though, were, as they largely are today, in computers and their possibilities for education.

Thirty years after he started working in the field, "on the whole, we're still not doing a good job using computers in education." Ideally, he believes, computers can be used at lower levels to improve language skills through communication within real communities — for example, students can use e-mail to communicate with peers in another part of the world.

At higher levels, and in the workplace, Boyd believes strongly in the power of the connectivity and anonymity computers offer. In Ireland, for instance, students at a Protestant and at a Catholic school worked out solutions to a variety of problems as part of a social studies project. And in the process, they gained a greater understanding of each other.

Computers could also help organizations make better decisions and negotiate solutions. "If you go into a computer communication space where people communicate under pseudonyms, there may be more of a chance of coming up with agreement based on arguments, and not who has the loudest voice or the most seductive voice."



Gary Boyd

PHOTO: CHRISTIAN FLEURY

Boyd, whose personal library holds over 10,000 books, takes a broad view of educational technology — one that does more than just deliver specific information within narrow parameters. At its best, it can be the foundation for a more pluralistic and equitable society.

"A community is held together by allegiance to symbols and ritual ways of relating," he writes on his Web site. Rituals, whether those of scientists, merchants or religious orders, "are needed primarily to make life meaningful. . . . A current and historic problem is that one community, in the present case, the global business community, has become excessively predominant. The challenge to educational technology is to use the new media to restore greater pluralism of communal allegiance and performance."

Boyd is clearly troubled by the effects of both budget cuts and shifting priorities in education.

"In the 1960s and early '70s, pro-

fessors were looked upon as the main assets and in some cases, the precious jewels of the universities. Now the chief celebrated asset of the university seems to be its corporate and individual monument-seeking donors!" he said by e-mail.

In an interview, Boyd adds, "education as job training is a notion that short-changes students and short-changes society."

Maureen Gittens, who works at the Canadian Space Agency and graduates from the Ed Tech Master's Program this spring, was supervised by Boyd. She had nothing but praise for him. "Gary Boyd has been extremely supportive. He's actually someone you can sit down and talk with. He has a listening ear and he doesn't judge. He's there to listen, to help, and, hopefully, to uplift," she said.

Gary Boyd's homepage is at <http://alcor.concordia.ca/~boydg/drboyd.html>

IN BRIEF...

Congratulations, Dr. Lowy

The Rector and Vice-Chancellor of Concordia, Frederick Lowy, will be granted an honorary doctor of laws degree on June 19 by the University of Toronto.

The honour is being conferred in recognition of his pivotal role in the establishment of the University of Toronto's Joint Centre for Bioethics.

Dr. Lowy is a psychiatrist and medical ethicist. Before coming to Concordia in 1995, he was dean of the University of Toronto's Faculty of Medicine, as well as founding director of

the Centre for Bioethics.

Concert Hall greets 100,000th patron

At a recent concert by Marie-Claude Matton, a graduate student performing a diploma recital, one member of the audience got more than a musical treat.

Melanie Auclair won a trip for two to Toronto, compliments of VIA Rail and Marriott Hotels, for being the Concordia Concert Hall's 100,000th visitor.

AT A GLANCE

COMPILED BY BARBARA BLACK

This column welcomes the submissions of all Concordia faculty and staff to promote and encourage individual and group activities in teaching and research, and to encourage work-related achievements.

Alex Sharma (TESL) gave a workshop on "Grammar in the News: Teaching Grammar in Context" at the 18th Annual ThaiTESOL International Conference, held in Hat Yai, Thailand, January 22 to 24. He was invited to repeat the workshop at Rajabhat Teacher Training College at Phuket, and at Assumption College in Bangkok. While in Thailand, he also met with Concordia graduates **Kate Owens** (MA Applied Linguistics), teaching at the Asian University of Science and Technology in Pattaya, and **Robb Armstrong** (BEd TESL), teaching at Rajabhat Institute Phuket.

Lewis J. Poteet (English) has been in Dayton, Wichita, Oklahoma City, Fort Worth and Austin with his co-author, Martin Stone. They chose the cities, all aircraft manufacturing centres, to promote their book about slang and jargon, *Plane Talk*. Poteet also gave a speech at "Airburner Night" at the Kansas Aviation Museum, on the site of the McConnell Air Force Base.

Gérard Leduc (Biology, retired) recently read a paper, "The Fingerprints of a Lost Civilization in the Northeast," to the spring meeting of the New England Antiquities Research Association, in Keene, New Hampshire. Last year, he wrote a book, *Yesterdays of Pottowatamie*, published to mark the 200th anniversary of Pottowatamie Township, in southern Quebec.

Last fall, **Pierre L'Hériault** (Études françaises) published *Par la porte d'en arrière* (Lanctôt éditeur). This book contains an organized transcription of interviews in 1982 with Quebec writer Jacques Ferron, who died in 1985. L'Hériault also published "L'espace immigrant et l'espace amérindien dans le théâtre québécois depuis 1977" in B. Bednarski & I. Oore, *Nouveaux regards sur le théâtre québécois* (XYZ éditeur/Dalhousie French Review, 1997).

A paper by **Nikos Metallinos** (Communication Studies), "The Transformation of Biological Precepts to Mental Concepts in Recognizing Visual Images," was awarded first place in the paper competition of the Broadcast Education Association's annual conference, held in Las Vegas in April. At the same conference, he was elected vice-chair of the international division, responsible mainly for organizing conference programs.

Lionel Sanders (Classics, Modern Languages and Linguistics) has published a review of Klaus Geus, "Prosopographie de literarisch bezeugten Karthager," in *Gnomon* 70 (1998).

Sima Aprahamian (Sociology and Anthropology) was a member of the editorial committee of *Le génocide arménien dans la presse canadienne/The Armenian Genocide in the Canadian Press*, volume II, 1916-1923, published by the Montreal-based Armenian National Committee of Canada.

David Howes and **Constance Classen** (Sociology and Anthropology) had a book chapter, "Vital Signs: The Dynamics of Traditional Medicine in Northwestern Argentina," published in *The Third Wave of Modernization in Latin America: Cultural Perspectives on Neoliberalism* (editor, Lynne Phillips, Jaguar Books).

John Jackson (Sociology and Anthropology) has been appointed Canadian editor of the *Journal of Radio Studies*, published in Washington, D.C., by the Broadcast Education Association.

Christine Jourdan (Sociology and Anthropology) had a book published, *1997 Edited Essays in Honour of Roger Keesing*, in the special volume of *Canberra Anthropology*, Vol. 20. She gave the plenary address, "Youth and Urbanization in the Pacific," at the annual meeting of the Association of Commonwealth Countries of the Pacific in October.

Filippo Salvatore (CMLL) published *Le Cinéma de Paul Tana* with Anna Gural-Migdal (Éditions Balzac, 1997), and had a chapter, "L'arte di Marie Cavaliere," published in *Mario Cavaliere* (editor, Marzio Cavaliere, Ed. Lampo, Campobasso, 1997). He also had an article published in the journal *Italian-Canadiana*, "Liborio Lattoni: da missionario protestante a poeta nella Montreal del primo Novecento." Salvatore has written about 20 editorials in the Montreal Italian-language weekly *Il Cittadino Canadese*.

LETTERS

Letters to the Editor must be signed, include a phone number, and be delivered to the CTR office (BC-117/1463 Bishop St.) in person, by fax (514-848-2814), by e-mail (barblak@alcor.concordia.ca) or mail by 9 a.m. on the Friday prior to publication.

A Letterman list

Top 10 reasons for the administration's closing of Concordia's Ecotoxicology Program:

10. Dignitaries exhausted by hand shaking of Ecotoxicology graduates at convocations.
9. Graduate science programs must be neither popular with female students nor fiscally profitable.
8. Concordia is not in the business of providing knowledge, skills and tools that enable science students to enter the workplace.
7. A devilishly clever tactic whereby the closing of a strong, dynamic program frightens weak programs at Concordia into strengthening their operations.
6. Puts correct meaning to the word, fresh, as in Fresh Ideas of the administration, i.e. "having little or no experience, raw (Webster)."
5. It's a power trip to defy the written pleas of an elected federal environmental minister to foster ecotoxicology.
4. It shows verve to mock Concordia's commitment to the Talloires Declaration.*
3. This closing doesn't hurt the friends of key administrators; in fact, it immensely pleases some.
2. Either God or China will save the environment.
1. McGill doesn't have an ecotoxicology program. How dare Concordia!

*The Rector signed this international agreement in 1995, committing Concordia to expand options in environmental education for its students and to integrate a sound environmental philosophy into all its operations.

Perry D. Anderson, PhD,
Founder and former director,
Ecotoxicology

Swastika predates Nazis

In the article headlined "When meaning changes with time," on the work of Karen Doerr in German Studies (CTR, April 23), you quote her as being "...surprised to see swastikas in the articles published here; in Germany, it is illegal to show Nazi symbols." Surprised Dr. Doerr may be, but the swastika has an honourable history as a symbol with no Nazi connotations. It is known as the *fylfot*, the filler for the foot of the page. It is also the *gam-madion*, being built from four capital Greek gammas. The word *swastika* is Sanskrit and means good fortune. It is a Hindi religious symbol, and many are seen in India (and in Japan) today. Whatever the undertones in Germany, they are not universal.

John McKay
Computer Science

Enrolment project recommends sweeping changes

The interim report of the massive Enrolment Management Project (EMP) calls for a new or redesigned student information system to keep Concordia's recruitment and admission efforts competitive with other universities.

Information blockage and jurisdictional confusion are preventing Concordia from doing its best to recruit and admit students, according to the people working on the EMP. Their interim report got an encouraging reception when it was presented to the Rector's Advisory Group on April 20.

The project is aimed at analyzing and radically improving how the University handles students. A team has worked since October to gather information on how recruitment and admission are currently organized. While final recommendations aren't expected until the project is complete, there was enough consensus to suggest that a new or completely redesigned student information system (SIS) is needed.

In fact, the committee believes that unless the SIS is changed radically, the University can expect only incremental improvement in its admissions and recruitment processes.

Ultimately, the EMP team recommends establishing a fully-dedicated recruitment centre that would serve the needs of the Faculties, the School of Graduate Studies and the Office of the Registrar. Both McGill University and the University of Toronto have recently created central recruitment offices.

At Concordia, the same people are doing recruitment and admissions, two sometimes conflicting tasks. The EMP team found that more than 50 units — specifically, 110 employees — are spending at least 10 per cent of their time on recruitment, and there are no criteria for measuring the success of their efforts.

Jurisdictional problems also exist, particularly for prospective graduate students. For some programs, students apply to the relevant department; for others, to the School of Graduate Studies.

Part of the problem is lack of information about the students. It should be possible to track students electronically from their first expression of interest in Concordia through the various stages of application, admission, all the way to graduation — and students themselves should have access to this information.

The EMP envisions a central, autonomous office of professional recruiters with instant access to the information they need.

The team working on the enrolment project includes administrators with years of direct experience with recruitment and admissions at Concordia. It also includes student representatives, who brought valuable insights to the discussion.

The next stage of the EMP, which is expected to continue through the summer, is called "visioning," and involves redesigning the current recruitment and admissions processes identified in this interim report. -BB

DANCE continued from p.1

you can learn how to choreograph," Langley said. "This is incorrect. There is a craft that holds up creation, a building. You have to put down the foundation, and then you start building. I presented the students with as many structural approaches to creating work as I could.

"The role of the choreographer is a particularly difficult one," Langley said. "Unlike painters, who can throw their canvases in the garbage, choreographers can only test their work on an audience.

"It's very expensive. You have to rent studios, find dancers who have faith in becoming your interpreters,

DIGITAL continued from p.1

Charles R. Bronfman Foundation and the J. Armand Bombardier Foundation. Selections from the J.A. Bombardier Museum and the Bronfman corporate collection, the Claridge Collection, were digitized and used to create interactive activities in French and English for students in grades 2 to 8.

Garvey and Linda Bien, of the Faculty of Fine Arts Slide Library, were recently awarded a \$22,000 Schoolnet Grant from Industry Canada to create the Anne Savage Web site. A team of 10, led by student Fred Oliver, have spent the year bringing together research material from the Anne Savage Archive, which was compiled by Professor Emerita Leah Sherman (Art Education).

rehearse them, and then present them to an audience. Only at the end of the performance do you know whether the work really lives."

She also established a strong tradition of student advising. "I wanted every credit to be connected either to their major discipline or some other love they had in their life, whether it was biology or English literature."

You can see Elizabeth Langley dance tomorrow, Saturday or Sunday at the Laboratoire de l'Agora de la danse, 840 Cherrier St. (Sherbrooke métro station) at 4 p.m. The show is called "In camera" and not (she also calls it "In private" and not), and while she is the soloist, it also features some of her best former students. Tickets are \$10, and can be obtained by calling 525-1500.

Savage was part of the vital Canadian art movements of the 1930s and '40s. Formerly an art teacher at Baron Byng High School, she was closely linked to the Group of Seven and the Northern Symbolist tradition.

"Such a project requires team effort and an entire infrastructure of faculty, students and technicians to make it all happen. It comes down to the idea of a culture of technology, where shared knowledge allows you to create sophisticated projects," Garvey said.

Students enrolled in the program have also been awarded contracts by Stentor Communications, an alliance of 11 Canadian telecommunication companies, to work on designs for the CANFIND Web site program on disaster relief.

CONCORDIA'S THURSDAY REPORT

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CUP releases engineering report

The Commission des universités sur les programmes (CUP), a task force aimed at rationalizing Quebec's post-secondary course offerings, has issued a no-surprises report on engineering studies.

The document presents a detailed snapshot of the current state of engineering education across the province. It takes note of Concordia's success in reducing the operating budget of the Faculty of Engineering and Computer Science (by 10.25 per cent or \$1.7 million), professoriate (by 11 per cent) and support staff without any significant reduction in enrolment or courses.

It also notes that at Concordia, the Department of Civil Engineering has joined with Building Studies to create the School for Building,

that negotiations are going on with McGill University to cooperate more closely in post-graduate programs, and that a new building is being considered.

Other engineering schools across Quebec are actively pursuing cooperative ventures in various disciplines. CUP notes that this can have the added benefit of improving students' second language.

CUP recommends broadening the base curriculum for engineering students and giving them introductory studies in management. It calls for closer links with computer science (already close at Concordia), more women students and faculty, and greater harmony with CEGEP programs. -BB

IN BRIEF...

High profile in China

Concordia is one of five universities invited to send representatives to the centenary celebrations of Peking University.

Rector Frederick Lowy and his wife, Mary Kay Lowy, are representing Concordia at the festivities in Beijing, and Bernard Shapiro and Mrs. Shapiro will represent McGill University.

The trip started with a visit to Hong Kong with Director of University Advancement Chris Hyde. They held a reception for alumni and met with potential Capital Campaign canvassers and donors.

On the Lowys' trip to Beijing, where they held meetings with several Chinese educational institutions, they were joined by Deans Mohsen Anvari and Martin Singer and Professors Dale Doreen and Balbir Sahni, Director of the Centre for International Academic Cooperation.

They went on to Nanjing to take part in a conference of Canadian and Chinese universities, where Dean Singer made a major presentation yesterday and the Rector is scheduled to chair one of the sessions today.

Irene F. Whittome's elegant art is celebrated

It has been a season of honours for Studio Arts Professor Irene F. Whittome, an active artist with an international reputation.

Last year, she became the first woman in a decade to be awarded the Prix du Québec Paul-Émile Borduas, Quebec's most prestigious arts award.

On April 8, a reception was held in Whittome's honour by the Faculty of Fine Arts at the home of Rector Frederick Lowy and Mary Kay Lowy. About 40 people attended, including past winners of the Prix Paul-Émile Borduas with a Concordia connection, such as Guido Molinari, a former painting professor, and Michel Dallaire. Dallaire is a member of the Faculty's external advisory board, which was well represented at the event.

Whittome was also one of the finalists for the YWCA's award for Women of Distinction/Femmes de

Mérite. The gala dinner presentation was held April 30 at the downtown Sheraton Centre Hotel, and Whittome, a poised, elegant woman, was joined at the dinner by several of her many friends in the local arts community.

While she didn't win (the prize in that category went to veteran Montreal ballet teacher Yvette Pauzé), it was gratifying to see her achievements honoured. Previous Concordia women who have won these awards include Études françaises Professor Mair Verthuy (for the advancement of women, 1997), Engineering Professor Corinne Mount Pleasant-Jetté (education, 1995) and former Advisor on the Status of Women Claudie Solar (science and technology, 1995).

Whittome came to Montreal many years ago from Vancouver, and began teaching art at Concordia in 1968. In 1974, she created the innovative Open Media program, designed to accommodate undergraduate and graduate art students whose work spilled over the traditional boundaries between disciplines.

FILE PHOTO



Irene F. Whittome

vative Open Media program, designed to accommodate undergraduate and graduate art students whose work spilled over the traditional boundaries between disciplines.

She became a full professor in 1995, and continues to teach Open Media and Painting, as well as courses in other aspects of art. However, she has just begun a two-year sabbatical that will focus on fulfilling

the requirements of two major exhibitions.

Whittome has more than 35 solo exhibits behind her, as well as 130 group exhibitions held throughout Canada, Europe and the United States. A major show of her work was recently mounted at Montreal's Musée d'art contemporain, and drew favourable notice. It featured strong, spare meditations on the theme of fertility. - BB

New inductees into Sports Hall of Fame

Many memories were shared April 23 when four athletes, three "builders" and a fighting football team were inducted into the Concordia Sports Hall of Fame.

About 160 people attended a dinner at the east-end Brasserie Molson-O'Keefe to honour these outstanding athletes, who had travelled here from as far away as Victoria, B.C., and Washington, D.C.

Athletes:

Joann Bourque (BA 83)

An excellent basketball player, Joann Bourque won many awards while she was at Concordia. She received her BA in Recreation and Leisure Studies in 1983. Today, she lives in New Bedford, Mass.

Larry Tittley (BA 78)

Larry Tittley played varsity football for Sir George Williams University in 1970, Loyola College in 1973, and — when the two institutions merged — Concordia in 1974 and 1975.

He subsequently went on to play for the Calgary Stampeders in 1976 to 1980, and then the Ottawa Rough Riders until 1985. Tittley was voted to the Western All-Star Team (1978) while with the Stampeders, and the Eastern All-Star Team (1981) while with the Ottawa Rough Riders.

He now works in financial services and is married to a Concordia alumna, Kathryn Atkinson (BA 1976). They have four children.

Glenn Tomalty (BComm 77)

Glenn Tomalty was a record-breaking scorer with both the Loyola College and Concordia hockey teams.

After graduation, he played professional hockey, playing for four seasons in several leagues, including the NHL, and two seasons as a player/coach in Europe.

He now lives in Calgary with his wife Robin, a former Concordia student, and they have two children.

Bernie Wolfe (S BComm 74)

Bernie Wolfe was an exceptional goaltender for Sir George Williams, a three-time Quebec hockey league all-star, and in his final season, led the Georgians to a berth in the national championship.

After graduation, he joined the NFL's Washington Capitals. He went on to become a certified financial planner, and runs his own company in Chevy Chase, Maryland, where he lives with his wife, Patsy-Ann, and their two daughters.

Builders:

Edmund F. Enos

Football player, coach, professor, administrator, Dr. Ed Enos had a profound impact on sports at Concordia from the time he arrived at Loyola College in 1965 to be Director of Athletics. He founded the Department of Exercise Science and helped establish five undergraduate programs and a graduate program in Sports Administration.

He won the Distinguished Service Award from the U.S. Sports Academy in 1986 for developing courses,



Posing with their Hall of Fame citations are, standing, Victor Zilberman, Bernie Wolfe, Joann Bourque, Larry Tittley and Greg Tomalty, and seated, Ed Enos and Mag Flynn.

training programs and exchanges that contributed to the international development of sport.

Enos had played defensive end with the B.C. Lions football team before coming to Loyola, and had a successful term as defensive coach with the Montreal Alouettes. He retired from Concordia in December 1996.

Magnus Flynn (S BComm 49)

In 1952, Magnus Flynn was hired to develop an athletic program at Sir George Williams. He had played intercollegiate basketball himself for four years while at Sir George.

He was given a former cupboard on the third floor of the Norris Building and a \$3,000 debt to contend with. The four big schools at the time (Toronto, Queen's, McGill and Western) would not accept the new schools, so a new league was

founded, the Ottawa-St. Lawrence Intercollegiate Association.

Flynn developed a full athletic program with basketball as the founding sport. As coach of the Georgians for 11 years, he had a 147-30 record and won the conference title eight times, the City Open title twice, and the Eastern Canada title once.

Today, he continues to win awards and be active in his community, and was named Senior Volunteer of the Year for British Columbia.

Victor Zilberman (Dip 85)

Victor Zilberman has given 25 years of service to Concordia as head coach of wrestling, winning six CIAU titles, among other contributions.

He was the Olympic team coach for wrestling in 1988, 1992 and 1996, and the national team head

Art lovers alert

Artstravaganza, the third annual Fine Arts fundraiser, will be held June 10 at Concordia's Leonard and Bina Ellen Art Gallery to coincide with an exhibition called *Les mystères objectifs*.

The show will be a tribute to the 50th anniversary of the *Refus global*, the manifesto of a small group of Montreal intellectuals that heralded the social, religious and political change of the late 1950s and '60s in Quebec known as the Quiet Revolution. It is part of a city-wide celebration throughout June in museums, galleries and artists' studios called Peinture-Peinture.

Les mystères objectifs will feature elements of the University's own extensive collection, including works by Paul-Émile Borduas, Jean-Paul Riopelle, Yves Gaucher, Jacques Hurtubise, Rita Letendre, Guido Molinari and Irene F. Whittome. Whittome and Betty Goodwin are among several artists who have donated works on paper to be drawn as door prizes, along with a gourmet Italian dinner for two at L'Altro.

Tickets cost \$20, and the money raised will go toward the many talented young Fine Arts students who badly need financial help to stay in school. These include bursaries and the Ann Duncan Award for the Visual Arts, an endowment that funds an internship at the Ellen Gallery.

Artstravaganza will be held June 10 from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. in the Leonard and Bina Ellen Art Gallery, 1400 de Maisonneuve Blvd. W. For tickets or information, call Marilyn Healy, 848-4660, healym@vax2.concordia.ca

coach in 1981, 1985, 1987 and 1997. Since 1977, he has been head coach of the Montreal Wrestling Club, and has been involved in wrestling programs in high schools and YMCA and YMHAs. He has also been an editor of *Canadian Wrestler Magazine*.

Today, he teaches full-time at Vanier College, and is a part-time physical education instructor at McGill and Concordia.

Teams:

Loyola Warriors football team, 1962

They were smaller and less athletic than the favourites to win the Ottawa-St. Lawrence Football Conference championship for the 1962-63 season. The Ottawa press even suggested that the Loyola Warriors Football team not bother showing up for the game. By half-time, it looked like the cocky Carleton Ravens would indeed be the winners, as the score was 17-7 against Loyola. But the Warriors persevered, and came up with a great comeback victory: 39-24.

Graduate students hold third annual academic conference

Religion students create their own job opportunities

BY MICHAEL DOBIE

Graduate students in Concordia's Department of Religious Studies aren't waiting for the world to come to them. On April 27, they held a full day of presentations by students from across Montreal under the title Shifting Perspectives: Interdisciplinary Studies in Religion and Culture.

The event, their third annual conference, was a showcase of their research in a highly eclectic field. The papers ranged from a comparison of sado-masochism with Christian asceticism to a discussion of the roles of tradition and feminism among Muslim women.

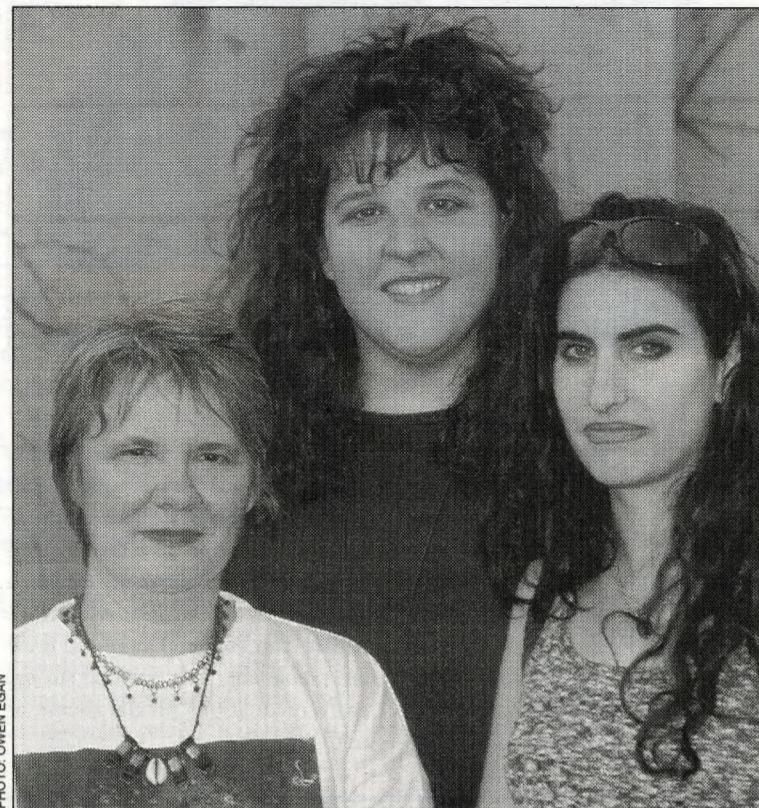
One of the final sessions was on careers in religion and theology in Montreal. "Students in Religious Studies are not aware of the job opportunities in the field," said Johanne M. Rabbat, a PhD student in Religion (Comparative Ethics) at Concordia, and one of the conference organizers.

Rabbat is also president of the Graduate Religion Students' Association, the assistant to the Chair of Hindu Studies and a representative and founding member of CERT (Coalition pour les études en Religion et en Théologie), a coalition of graduate students from all four Montreal university departments of religion and theology.

People often confuse students of Religious Studies with people entering the clergy, Rabbat said. They don't realize that it's an academic discipline, like history or economics.

Professor Ira Robinson said that 25 years ago, when he was a graduate student, there were no jobs out there, and that the situation hasn't changed. "Graduate students went into law school, business school, the clergy, all sorts of things," Robinson said. "I had dumb luck. Part of it was I believed I could do it."

More than self-confidence is required to land scarce faculty jobs, however. Another conference organizer, PhD student Deirdre Butler, pointed out that job experience is needed while students are still at



Left to right, graduate students Marlene Bonneau, Johanne M. Rabbat and Deirdre Butler, who coordinated the recent inter-university conference on religion and culture.

school. Papers must be presented at conferences, research must be published, and students need to get experience teaching before they graduate and start looking for faculty positions.

There is little or no money for travel to conferences and to pay the dues. Academic conferences can be expensive to attend, and senior participants may be unfriendly to graduate students. Academic journals don't welcome graduate student research, and the first shot at the sessional jobs tends to go to part-time professors with many years' experience.

Butler said that in order to bridge these difficulties, students have to create their own opportunities. They do this by organizing the annual conference, publishing the *Journal of Religion and Culture* and pursuing opportunities to teach while still in graduate school.

The *Journal of Religion and Culture* (*JRC*) is edited by Butler, who is committed to publishing students' research. Selected papers from the

conference will be published in an upcoming volume of the *JRC*.

Due to lack of funding, the future of the conference is in peril. This year, the *JRC* is subsidizing the conference by cutting its publication from biannually to annually and emptying its treasury. It's a gamble Butler hopes will allow the conference to secure the minimum \$1,500 per year required.

Lest anyone doubt the social utility of religious studies, Robinson explained that the slaughter by U.S. government agents of the Branch Davidians in Waco, Texas, might have turned out differently had the FBI listened to experts in the field.

The study of new religions, such as the Branch Davidians and other cults, are one of the strengths of Concordia's Religious Studies Department. Concordia is also strong in Judaic, Hindu and interdisciplinary studies, and recently created a chair in Islamic studies.

IN BRIEF...

Treadmill sold

The Weider WCTL9006 treadmill valued at \$920 which was being auctioned off has been sold to Johanne Lussier (Annual Giving Office) for \$613. The next nearest bids were by Laura Wells (also Annual Giving, who bid \$502) and Silvana Novembre (Graduate Studies, \$250).

The exercise device, which was valued at \$920, was won by Steven Winikoff at the 1997 Shuffle and generously donated back to the University.

Johanne's bid will go towards Shuffle scholarships and bursaries — and she'll probably get to Loyola ahead of everyone else next September 25, at Shuffle '98.

Loyola Health Services

Due to renovations and the summer schedule, Loyola Health Services, located in the Administration Building, Room 121-3, will be closed from May 1 to August 28. For the summer, health care will be centralized at Sir George Williams Health Services, 2155 Guy St., Room 407.

Sporty, Posh — and Holy Spice?

"The virgin martyrs were like the Spice Girls of the medieval world," a graduate student told the interdisciplinary Religious Studies conference.

St. Margaret was a young Christian shepherdess who lived in Antioch in the fourth century AD, when the Roman Empire was still largely pagan and prone to persecuting Christians.

It is said that she caught the fancy of the local prefect, and when she spurned his advances, was tortured and thrown into prison. There she encountered both a dragon and the Devil disguised as a smooth-talking man. She refused to

renounce her faith and was finally beheaded.

She is one of the "virgin martyrs," young women executed for their beliefs, whose stories are told in *The Golden Legend*, a listing of saints written by hagiographer James of Voragine in the 13th century.

The book was immensely popular in the Middle Ages. Printings of it even outnumbered copies of the Bible, according to Terry Nordhoff-Perusse, a PhD student in Medieval Studies at McGill, who gave the presentation.

- MD

Women writing around the world in French will be celebrated here May 15 to 17

Écriture de femme, identité mouvante

PAR EVELYNE ABITBOL

Longtemps l'écriture des femmes ne s'est pas dévoilée. Et longtemps, les hommes ont écrit et décrit les femmes.

De l'ancien testament à André Breton, de la légende de la recherche du Graal aux textes des rappeurs, des Evangiles à Freud, l'écrivain masculin jetait un regard sur la société qui l'entourait et sur les femmes qui y évoluaient. Son regard passait par l'idée qu'il s'en faisait.

Aujourd'hui, les femmes s'écrivent, se décrivent et se prononcent sans miroir déformant, sans le refoulement ou la censure d'un autre regard, et sans le prisme masculin.

Radio-Canada consacrera aux Femmes de lettres et au français hors frontière une heure à l'émission de radio, *Entre Terre et Ciel*, animée par Thérèse Miron, qui sera diffusée au cours de l'été. L'émission est inspirée par le colloque international organisé pour célébrer l'exceptionnelle carrière de Maïr Verthuy, directrice-fondatrice de l'Institut Simone de Beauvoir et professeure titulaire au Département d'études françaises.

Ce colloque se tiendra du 15 au 17 mai au pavillon Henry F. Hall du Campus Sir George Williams.

L'émission de Radio-Canada rendra hommage à Mme Verthuy en débutant l'émission par une longue entrevue avec cette dernière. Puis, sera consacrée aux femmes de lettres, une table ronde à laquelle devraient participer trois éminentes femmes de lettres:

• Lucie Lequin, directrice du Département d'études françaises, qui touchera à la question du défi des écrivaines migrantes avec "Écrire la convergence sans s'y perdre." Elle prépare, avec Maïr Verthuy, une anthologie de l'écriture des femmes



FILE PHOTO
Maïr Verthuy

migrantes qui sera prête pour l'automne.

• Irène Oore, de l'Université de Dalhousie, qui se préoccupe de la question du "Passé présent, aux limites d'une mémoire éclatée, celle de l'écriture sauvage de Guta Tyrangiel Benzera."

• Armelle Chérit, diplômée en littérature de Paris, qui discutera de l'aspect du "Chant mère-fille de l'émigrante."

L'émission se terminera par ma chronique régulière. Je parlerais de la présence de l'écriture de femmes dans l'espace virtuel en tenant compte de ce qui aura été dit et exposé précédemment.

Le colloque lui, recevra des femmes de toutes origines linguistiques ou culturelles qui écrivent en français par obligation ou par amour. Les voix francophones féminines sont marquées par l'étrangeté et par l'altérité et donnent à la langue une identité toujours mouvante; elles en témoignent. Trois projections de films sont prévues au cours de l'événement en présence des réalisatrices.

'I'm no hero,' says modest bus driver

Manny DaCosta to the rescue

BY JORDAN ZIVITZ

Manuel DaCosta wants people to know that he isn't a hero. The Concordia shuttle bus driver simply inserted himself into a verbal and physical altercation that took place at the Loyola campus on Tuesday, April 21.

The trouble began when a female motorist was hit from behind outside the main entrance of the Loyola Campus. Her car didn't suffer any damage, but when the other driver emerged from his vehicle, she noticed that he appeared to be drunk.

"I asked him if he'd been drinking, and that sparked him," said the woman. "He became very verbally abusive."

DaCosta was leaving on his last run from Loyola when the fender-bender occurred. "I pulled up beside [the woman], and she told me to call 911 because the [other driver] was drunk and was trying to leave," he said.

As a number of pedestrians gathered near the two motorists, the man returned to his car, but the woman attempted to wrench his keys away from him. "We didn't want him getting back in the car," she said.

"Because of the way he was behaving we all thought he was drunk, and we were afraid that he was going to hit somebody again."

The man got out of his car and began shoving the woman, at which point DaCosta left his bus to call 911 and intervene in the escalating dispute. "I got between them," he said, "and a couple of minutes later a student came out of the bus to help us."

An employee of Concordia eventually reached the scene of the accident to see if any assistance was needed. He told DaCosta that he would wait for the police to show up, and the bus driver boarded his vehicle and prepared to drive away.

"While I was leaving, the driver was trying to get back in his car and was trying to force the door open, but the employee didn't let him go," DaCosta said. "I was looking in my mirror, and I saw the driver take a swing at the employee."

DaCosta stopped the bus again, and returned to the street with the student who had helped to intervene a few minutes earlier. The female driver (whose daughter was waiting in her car until a family friend drove by and took her home) told the other

motorist that he could get back in his car, but only if he gave her his license.

"The guy shoved the woman one more time and her head snapped back," DaCosta said, "so I grabbed the guy from behind and put my arms round his neck." DaCosta then dragged the man to the sidewalk, warned him not to touch the woman again, and drove off on his last run. The Concordia employee and several pedestrians stayed at the scene until the police arrived.

DaCosta has been a shuttle bus driver for eight months and has never previously physically intervened in an incident on the job. He didn't tell anybody about his involvement in the incident. It was only when an employee posted a message on the staff electronic newsgroup Shoptalk that his actions became known.

DaCosta feels uncomfortable with his moment in the spotlight. "Everybody's saying I'm a hero, but I'm not," he declared. "It was something small that got out of hand. I was there, I helped, and I left. The only difference was that I grabbed the guy. But there were people there to help if the situation got even worse."

Staff Works



Manuel DaCosta

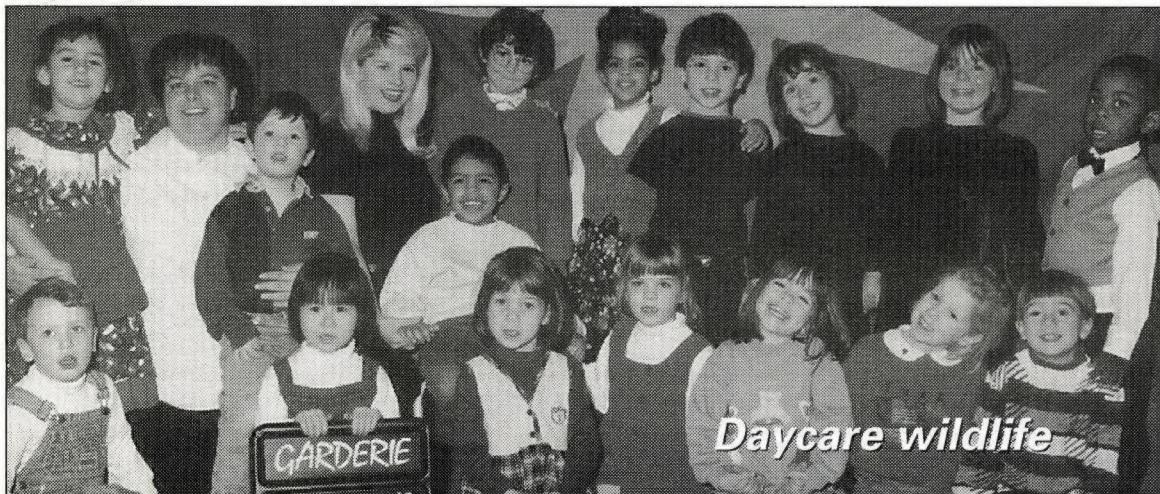
PHOTO: ANDREW DOBROWOLSKY

The female driver sent a bottle of wine to DaCosta as a token of her gratitude, and DaCosta wants her to know that he appreciated the gift.

"It was reassuring for me that he

got involved," the woman said. "It was all quite frightening, especially with my daughter in the car. I didn't know what [the other driver] was going to do."

Daycare parents hold Casino Night



Here's the oldest class in the Garderie Les P'tit Profs, the daycare centre on the Loyola Campus. The photo was taken in the centre's "jungle room," and Hilary Scuffell says the class lives up to the room's lively decor. In the back row, left to right, are Kayla Nelson (graduating this spring), Nancy Pellerin, Max Hughes, Lisa Comerford, Chad Worrell, Nick Bukowski (graduating), Emily Lawrence (graduating), Rory Bosker (graduating), Hannah Mesina (graduating), Letitia Khendek and Clarence Gay. Sitting in the front row are Simon Wright, Katie Bei O'Keefe (graduating), Reema Ghadban, Amy White (graduating), Asli Buyukkurt (graduating), Meike Lauzon and Aaron Carr.

The following is an invitation from Hilary Scuffell (Human Resources), a parent at the Garderie Les P'tit Profs:

The Garderie Les P'tit Profs, the daycare centre on the Loyola Campus, will hold a Casino Night on May 23 at 7:30 p.m. in the seventh-floor Faculty and Staff Lounge of the Henry F. Hall Building to raise money for the renovation of the outdoor playground.

Three years ago, upon the demise of our beautiful willow tree and the unfortunate death of the daycare's

dear friend and parent, Tom Hughes, we were successful in fundraising for a new Deborah maple tree. We had a wee ceremony and built a wonderful picnic table which circles the tree. (We were very fortunate that the ice storm didn't damage the tree.)

Last year, we had extensive work done on our playground. We had an infant area built, as well as a "mound" so that in the winter time the children can sled in safety. We had a gazebo built for a little shade, as well as planting several trees.

Our play equipment is outdated and

starting to be unsafe, so this fundraiser will go a long way to help us replace it and have an even safer environment for the children to play in.

Tickets for the Casino Night can be bought from the daycare (848-7788) for \$15. This includes \$5,000 in play money for the casino. There will be door prizes, and a "millionaires' table" with prizes such as tickets to the Canadiens hockey game at the Molson Centre (in the reds), as well as tickets to the Catchers Club at the Olympic Stadium.

Applications to sponsor visiting lecturers

The Visiting Lecturers Committee of Concordia University invites applications from the University community to sponsor Visiting Lecturers for the 1998-99 academic year.

Application forms and guidelines may be obtained from the chair, director, principal or head of an academic unit or from the Office of the Provost and Vice-Rector, Research. Eight copies, including the original application, must be submitted to the Office of the latter at SGW, Room BC-223, by May 15, 1998.

*It should be noted that the income tax authorities have changed their procedures with respect to the granting of waivers of tax deductions at source for non-residents. Please refer to Guidelines for Applications and Request for Non-Resident Tax Waiver form.

Late applications cannot be accepted. The next round will take place in May 1999.

Multicultural recruiting takes off

A project has been launched to focus student-recruiting efforts in minority communities.

Several years in the planning, the Multiculturalism and Issues of Equity Project started with efforts by then Dean of Graduate Studies Martin Kusy and others to encourage black, aboriginal and other minority students to continue their education and come to Concordia.

For the past year, it has been directed by Ann Kerby, Director of Advocacy and Support Services. The coordinator of the project is Dave

McKenzie.

The campaign, which will steadily increase activity over the summer, includes brochures replete with photos of students and professors of colour. The bilingual handouts emphasize the varied advocacy services available to students, and the many links the University has forged over the years with Montreal's black community.

For more information, call Ann Kerby at 848-3536 or contact her at Kerby@alcor.concordia.ca

The BACK Page

Events, notices and classified ads must reach the Public Relations Department (BC-115) in writing no later than Thursday, 5 p.m. the week prior to the Thursday publication. For more information, please contact Eugenia Xenos at 848-4883, by fax: 848-2814 or by e-mail: ctr@alcor.concordia.ca.

MAY 7 • MAY 28

Alumni

Annual General Meeting

The Association of Alumni Sir George Williams Annual General Meeting will be held May 11, 1455 de Maisonneuve W., H-767, at 6 p.m. RSVP: 848-3819.

Annual General Meeting.

The Concordia University Alumni Association will hold its annual general meeting on May 21, 1455 de Maisonneuve W., H-767, at 6 p.m. RSVP: 848-3825.

Grad Finale Convocation Reception

All alumni are invited to this joyous celebration during Concordia's spring convocation to welcome new graduates to the "alumni family." June 12, Atrium of the J.W. McConnell Building, 1400 de Maisonneuve W., 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. Price: Free for spring 1998 graduates, \$12 for family and friends. Includes light refreshments. RSVP: 848-3815.

Art

May 12 to June 20

Les Mystères objectifs... selected works from the Permanent Collection (1948-1998). Leonard and Bina Ellen Art Gallery, 1400 de Maisonneuve W. Free. Info: 848-4750.

CPR/First Aid Courses

Environmental Health and Safety offers the following courses, which are open to everyone. For information and prices, call Training Coordinator Donna Fasciano at 848-4355.

May 7 and 8

CSST First Aid (English)

May 9

Basic Life Support

May 12

Heartsaver

May 16 and 17

CSST First Aid (English)

May 20 and 21

CSST First Aid (English)

May 23

Heartsaver

May 27

Heartsaver

May 28 and 29

CSST First Aid (French)

Campus Ministry

Mindfulness Meditation

Relaxing, centering and concentrating. Beginners always welcome. Thursdays at noon, Belmore House, Loyola. Info: Daryl Lynn Ross at 848-3585.

Video series on the Four Noble Truths

The Dalai Lama explains the fundamentals of Buddhism in this video-viewing and discussion group meeting on the Four Noble Truths. Every Wednesday from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at Campus Ministry, Loyola, 2496 West Broadway, beginning May 6. The group is open, so you are welcome to join at any point in the eight-week series. Feel free to bring your lunch. Info: Daryl Ross, 848-3585, daryllynn@vax2.concordia.ca

Community Events

Yellow Door Elderly Project

Volunteers are urgently needed over the summer months to accompany seniors to and from appointments, to help with shopping, or to drop by for visits once a week. Info: Leah or Danielle at 398-6243.

South African Freedom Day

Celebrate Freedom Day with an ecumenical church service at the Church of St. James the Apostle. Sunday, May 10, 4 p.m., 1439 Ste. Catherine W. The Montreal Intercultural Choir will sing "Oh Freedom" and the South African national anthem. Info: 849-7577.

Discovery Workshops

Family-oriented workshops for children and their parents are held every Sunday at the Redpath Museum. Registration (\$5) starts the Thursday before at 398-4086, ext. 4092. Limit: 20 places per workshop.

Social Justice Committee of Montreal

Elizabeth May, Sierra Club executive director, will speak on global economic justice, Third World debt and the environment at the Annual General Meeting of the Social Justice Committee of Montreal, May 13, 6 p.m., Ascension of our Lord church rectory, 375 Kitchener (corner Sherbrooke), Westmount.

Concert Hall

7141 Sherbrooke W. Info: 848-7928.

Friday, May 8

Bill Sparks Live: "Sparks of Laughter" comedy show, 8 p.m. Students, \$5; others, \$8. Tickets: 848-7928.

Saturday, May 9

Bill Sparks Live: "Sparks of Laughter" comedy show, 8 p.m. Students, \$5; others, \$8. Tickets: 848-7928.

Saturday, May 23

Barbershoppers' Pirate Show, 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. Tickets: 684-7499 or 695-3303.

Lecture

Tuesday, May 26

Brian Tokar, activist and author, on "Earth for Sale: Reclaiming Ecology in the Age of Corporate Greenwash." 7 p.m. Info: QPIRG at 848-7585.

Legal Information

Concordia's Legal Information Services offers free and confidential legal information and assistance to the Concordia community. By appointment only. Call 848-4960.

Meetings

Weekly jazz jam sessions

Every Wednesday, for the jazz community, hosted by Adrian Vedady, Tony Spina and Steve Raegele. Equipment is on site. At Reggie's, 1455 de Maisonneuve W., 8:30 p.m.

Office of Rights and Responsibilities

The Office of Rights and Responsibilities is available to all members of the University community for confidential consultations regarding any type of unacceptable behaviour, including discrimination and personal/sexual harassment, threatening and violent conduct, theft, destruction of property. Call 848-4857, or drop by 2150 Bishop, Room 110.

Ombuds Office

The Ombuds Office is available to all members of the University for information, confidential advice and assistance with university-related prob-

lems. Call 848-4964, or drop by 2100 Mackay, Room 100.

Special Events and Notices

Women and Work Symposium

Dealing with Change and Changing the Deal is the theme. Free. Thursday, May 7, 1 - 5 p.m., H-110, 1455 de Maisonneuve W. Info: Brian Hawker at 848-2707.

Red Alert!

Bloodsisters is looking for women interested in the production and distribution of the second edition of their zine, *Red Alert*. Info: 848-7585.

Scholarship available

The deadline for the Solar Energy Society of Canada's J. Bolton Scholarship is June 1. Candidates must have completed undergraduate studies at a Canadian university or college and have been admitted for graduate study at an engineering faculty in Canada. Info: (613) 234-4151, sesci@sympatico.ca

Sparklers Club

Do you like meeting new people, students, teachers, artists, writers, poets, sports personalities, etc.? The Sparklers, a senior student club, need your help in presenting social and intellectual activities. Call 848-7422 or slip a note under H-462-3 in the Hall Building.

Listening and referral centre for students

Peer Helpers are students who are trained in active listening skills and referrals. Drop by to talk or get information at 2090 Mackay, Room 02, or call us at 848-2859.

Unclassified

Assistant needed

In search of recent graduate of business to act as assistant. Excellent opportunity for growth. Work ranges from MIS, accounting, presentation preps, etc. in an apparel-manufacturing environment. Fax résumé to 739-0384, attention: Idrees.

Ride needed

Will share gas and driving to San Diego/L.A. area, early July. Call 488-2278 by May 27 or e-mail lf_ratel@alcor.concordia.ca by June 22.

For rent or for sale

4 1/2 condo, near Georges Vanier métro. Info: 848-4926 (days) or 933-9947 (evenings).

For rent

Upper duplex, 4 1/2, NDG. No appliances, unheated. \$500/mth. Washer/dryer outlets. Immediate occupancy. No cats allowed. Dogs accepted. Call 781-5773.

Sabbatical rental

Fully furnished four-bedroom house near universities. \$1,150/month + utilities. Available July 1. Contact A. Athienitis at 848-8791 or athienita@alcor.concordia.ca

For sale

Double bed with frame, excellent condition, \$100 or best offer. Call 488-2278 by May 25.

Tutoring and research help

Do you need tutoring in your courses? A Concordia alumnus, MA Economics, can prepare you for exams, research, and writing assignments. Geepu at 287-2685, aclad@colba.net

At a loss for words?

Let me help you. Proofreading & Editing, Copywriting, French to English

Translation. David Mitchell - Wordsmith: 484-6071, dmitchell@vircom.com

Spanish immersion programs
Carefully selected schools in Mexico, Central and South America, and Spain. North-South Connexions, 236-3400 or arnold@citonet.net

U.S. work permits

We can help Canadian citizens increase their chances of receiving U.S. work permits. Also, U.S. immigration and related business matters. B. Toben Associates (U.S. lawyers) 288-3896.

Workshops

Vocal improv workshops

Taught by Rhianon, who has recorded and toured with Bobby McFerrin and opened for Maya Angelou, for both experienced and beginning singers. Students: \$25, others: \$45. Tuesday, May 19, 6:30 - 9:30 p.m. Info: 848-2273. Register by May 12.

Spring workout

Registration now open

Classes until June 28

Recreation and Athletics

SGW and Loyola

Low, low fees

Call 848-3860 (SGW) or 848-3858 (Loy)

5th annual

Women and Work Symposium

Today, May 7, 1 to 5 p.m.

Alumni Auditorium, Henry F. Hall Building

Justice Pierrette Sévigny, Superior Court of Quebec

Dr. Janyne Hodder, Bishop's University

Jennifer Patton, Kadara Investments

Constance Middleton-Hope, Alliance-Quebec

This is a free, public event, followed by a reception, but phone-in registration is requested. Please call the Faculty of Commerce and Administration, 848-2707.

Mel Hoppenheim School of Cinema

25th annual year-end screening of Concordia student films

May 7: 7 and 9 p.m.

May 8: 7 and 9 p.m., awards ceremony at 6 p.m.

Rialto Theatre
5723 Park Ave.